GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4441
ANSWERED ON:24.04.2008
FUNDS FOR THE HANDICAPPED PERSONS
Bhagora Shri Mahavir

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has made a provision of Rupees 1800 Crore for the handicapped persons in the 11th Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the manner in which the said funds are likely to be utilized;

(c) whether the Government has fixed a target for making one lakh fresh employments available for handicapped persons in the private sector every year;

(d) if so, whether any action plan has been drawn up for making the said employment opportunities available; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT(SMT. SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN)

(a) to (e) According to the Budget Speech of Hon`ble Finance Minister in 2007-08,a scheme has been sanctioned which envisages payment of employer`s contribution to Employees Provident Fund (EPF) and Employees State Insurance (ESI) by the Government for the first three years for providing employment to persons with disabilities in private sector. The benefit of the scheme is for persons with monthly wages up to Rs. 25,000/- per month. The scheme covers all persons with disabilities defined under the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 and National Trust for the Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities Act, 1999.